



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 1335

January Session, 2005

* SB01335ED 040805 *

**AN ACT CONCERNING PROGRAMS AND SERVICES OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 17b-3 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
3 *passage*):

4 (a) The Commissioner of Social Services shall administer all law
5 under the jurisdiction of the Department of Social Services. The
6 commissioner shall have the power and duty to do the following: (1)
7 Administer, coordinate and direct the operation of the department; (2)
8 adopt and enforce regulations, in accordance with chapter 54, as are
9 necessary to implement the purposes of the department as established
10 by statute; (3) establish rules for the internal operation and
11 administration of the department; (4) establish and develop programs
12 and administer services to achieve the purposes of the department as
13 established by statute; (5) contract for facilities, services and programs
14 to implement the purposes of the department as established by statute;
15 (6) process applications and requests for services promptly; (7) with
16 the approval of the Comptroller and in accordance with procedures as
17 may be specified by the Comptroller, make payments to providers of
18 services for individuals who are eligible for benefits from the
19 department as appropriate; (8) make no duplicate awards for items of

20 assistance once granted, except for replacement of lost or stolen checks
21 on which payment has been stopped; [(8)] (9) promote economic self-
22 sufficiency where appropriate in the department's programs, policies,
23 practices and staff interactions with recipients; [(9)] (10) act as advocate
24 for the need of more comprehensive and coordinated programs for
25 persons served by the department; [(10)] (11) plan services and
26 programs for persons served by the department; [(11)] (12) coordinate
27 outreach activities by public and private agencies assisting persons
28 served by the department; [(12)] (13) consult and cooperate with area
29 and private planning agencies; [(13)] (14) advise and inform municipal
30 officials and officials of social service agencies about social service
31 programs and collect and disseminate information pertaining thereto,
32 including information about federal, state, municipal and private
33 assistance programs and services; [(14)] (15) encourage and facilitate
34 effective communication and coordination among federal, state,
35 municipal and private agencies; [(15)] (16) inquire into the utilization
36 of state and federal government resources which offer solutions to
37 problems of the delivery of social services; [(16)] (17) conduct,
38 encourage and maintain research and studies relating to social services
39 development; [(17)] (18) prepare, review and encourage model
40 comprehensive social service programs; [(18)] (19) maintain an
41 inventory of data and information and act as a clearing house and
42 referral agency for information on state and federal programs and
43 services; and [(19)] (20) conduct, encourage and maintain research and
44 studies and advise municipal officials and officials of social service
45 agencies about forms of intergovernmental cooperation and
46 coordination between public and private agencies designed to advance
47 social service programs. The commissioner may require notice of the
48 submission of all applications by municipalities, any agency thereof,
49 and social service agencies, for federal and state financial assistance to
50 carry out social services. The commissioner shall establish state-wide
51 and regional advisory councils.

52 Sec. 2. Subsection (c) of section 17b-105a of the general statutes is
53 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*

54 *passage*):

55 (c) The Commissioner of Social Services, pursuant to [7 CFR 273.9,]
 56 7 USC 2014(e)(6), shall implement the federal option to mandate the
 57 use of a standard utility allowance, to be used in place of actual utility
 58 costs, for purposes of calculating the excess shelter deduction of
 59 applicants for, or recipients of, food stamp program benefits. Pursuant
 60 to 7 USC 2014(e)(6)(C)(iii)(III), the commissioner shall not prorate a
 61 standard utility allowance based upon the fact that an assisted
 62 household shares the utility with an individual who is not a member of
 63 the assisted household.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	17b-3(a)
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	17b-105a(c)

HS *Joint Favorable Subst. C/R* ED

ED *Joint Favorable Subst.*